

DRAWING AMENDMENTS

A replacement drawing sheet for FIG.1 has been attached hereto.

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In the above referenced Office Action, the Examiner objected to the drawings for not expressly showing the digital to analog converter recited in claims 13 and 19. Applicant has provided a replacement drawing sheet for FIG.1 to expressly include digital to analog converter (DAC) 25 as optionally included in multimedia module 24. Support for amendment is provided in the original specification, page 7, lines 12-14, and in original claims 13 and 19. No new matter has been added.

Similarly, the specification has been amended to expressly include a reference to DAC 25 within the corresponding portion of the specification. Support for amendment is provided in the original specification, page 7, lines 12-14, and in original claims 13 and 19. No new matter has been added.

In the above referenced Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-12 under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by McMahan (U.S. Patent No. 5,859,541); and claims 13-24 under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over McMahan (U.S. Patent No. 5,859,541) in view of Official Notice. These rejections have been traversed and, as such, the applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the allowability of claims 1-24.

As discussed above, Claims 1-12 were rejected as anticipated by McMahan. In making the rejection, the Examiner reads the output buffers 42, 44 and 46 on the first, second and third drivers of Applicant's invention.

McMahan's output buffers each have a single corresponding impedance. For instance, output buffer 42 has an impedance Z_1 , output buffer 44 has an impedance Z_2 , etc. The output impedance is controlled by connecting or disconnecting each of the output buffer stages.

Claim 1 recites a programmable driver in accordance with an embodiment of Applicant's invention. This embodiment includes a first driver, and a second driver that is operably coupled in parallel with the first driver to drive a signal on to a line at a first drive level when a drive control signal is in a first state and wherein, when the drive control signal is in a second state, the second driver is in a high-impedance state, such that the first driver drives the signal on to the line at a second drive level, wherein the first drive level is greater than the second drive level. McMahan does not disclose such a second driver. McMahan's output buffers are either connected, providing a predetermined impedance, or disconnected, so as to control the overall output impedance. McMahan does not disclose suggest or teach a configuration where the drive level is controlled in a first and second state between first and second drive levels. Further, McMahan does not disclose suggest or teach placing a second driver in a high-impedance state. Applicant thus believes that claim 1 and claims 2-6 that depend therefrom, are patentably distinct from the prior art.

Claim 13 recites a multiple function system on a chip integrated circuit in accordance with an embodiment of Applicant's invention. Like claim 1, this embodiment also

includes a second driver that is operably coupled in parallel with the first driver to drive a signal on to a line at a first drive level when a drive control signal is in a first state and wherein, when the drive control signal is in a second state, the second driver is in a high-impedance state, such that the first driver drives the signal on to the line at a second drive level, wherein the first drive level is greater than the second drive level. As set forth above, McMahan does not disclose suggest or teach a configuration where the drive level is controlled in a first and second state between first and second drive levels. Applicant thus believes that claim 13 and claims 14-18 that depend therefrom, are patentably distinct from the prior art.

Claim 7 recites a programmable driver in accordance with an embodiment of Applicant's invention. This embodiment includes a plurality of tri-state drivers. McMahan does not disclose tri-state drivers. McMahan's output buffers are either connected, providing a predetermined impedance, or disconnected, so as to control the overall output impedance. Applicant thus believes that claim 7 and claims 8-12 that depend therefrom, are patentably distinct from the prior art.

Claim 19 recites a multiple function system on a chip integrated circuit in accordance with an embodiment of Applicant's invention. Like claim 7, this embodiment also includes a plurality of tri-state drivers. As set forth above, McMahan does not disclose tri-state drivers. Applicant thus believes that claim 19 and claims 20-24 that

depend therefrom, are patentably distinct from the prior art.

In addition, claim 11 recites a programmable driver in accordance with a further embodiment of the present invention. In this embodiment, the plurality of drivers are placed in a high-impedance state. McMahan's output buffers do not have a "high-impedance state". They each have a predetermined impedance. This provides a separate an independent basis for allowability of claim 11.

Claim 23 recites a multiple function system on a chip integrated circuit in accordance with an embodiment of Applicant's invention. Like claim 11, the plurality of drivers are placed in a high-impedance state. As discussed above, McMahan's output buffers do not have a "high-impedance state". This provides a separate an independent basis for allowability of claim 23.

As a final point, in rejecting claims 13-24, the Examiner stated that "it is well known in the art that most small devices such as personal digital assistants (PDA) comprise a plurality of interface modules, a converter, a processing module, and on-chip memory with their interconnections as claimed." Applicant interprets this statement as the Examiner taking Official Notice of this particular configuration. Applicant's respectfully traverse this Official Notice and request that the Examiner produce documentary prior art that expressly disclose the particular configurations set forth in the claims.

For the foregoing reasons, the applicant believes that claims 1-24 are in condition for allowance and respectfully request that they be passed to allowance.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone or facsimile if the Examiner believes that such a communication would advance the prosecution of the present invention.

No additional fee is due. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any fees that are required or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-2126.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

37 C.F.R 1.8

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